RG104 E-1 Box 172

Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT,

Washington, D. C., August 27, 1891.

O. C. Bosbyshell, Esq.,

Superintendent Mint U.S.,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

Acknowledging the receipt of your esteemed favor of the 25th instant, inclosing a plan for a Mint Exhibit at the World's Fair, Chicago, in 1893, I would say that General Nettleton, who has charge of the Treasury exhibits, has been absent from the City ever since your letter was received, and I have not been able to confer with him on the subject. I have, however, talked to the Secretary and he is of the opinion, in which I concur, that it is very doubtful whether we could coin money at Chicago. The law provides where money shall be coined in the United States, one of the places being Philadelphia, but there is no provision of law for striking coin of the United States at Chicago. It might be said that a Mint there at the Fair would be considered a branch of the Mint at Philadelphia for temporary purposes, but the Secretary is of the opinion that this would be a doubtful stretch of authority. He is also of the opinion that it would not be lawful to pay the expenses of any of the workmen, much less the cost of the machinery, from any appropriation but the appropriation for the Fair, and it is altogether probable that the managers would not give us any such

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amount of money as your plan contemplates, much less the erection of a separate building.

I will hold your plan until General Nettleton returns, and confer with him more fully upon the subject. In the meantime, I would suggest that you at once prepare a plan for a Mint Exhibit somewhat similar to the one at the Centennial, embracing only a press for the striking of medals, and such exhibits of coins, minerals, etc., or other parts of mint plant, as could be properly exhibited.

In forwarding the plans for the press, you will please state the pressure on the floor, as indicated in my last communication on this subject, in order that the proper supports may be made to the building.

Please do this at once, and I will submit the two plans to General Nettleton on his return.

Respectfully yours,

E. O. Leech

Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-1 Box 172

222

Treasy Dept.
Washington. D.C.
Aug. 27. 1891

E. O. Leech.
Director

Relative to Mint Exhibit at World's Fair. Chicago in 1893.

RECEIVED
AUG 28 1891
U. S. MINT, PHILA.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 172

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